

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2013 - 7:00 PM

The Meeting of the Recreation Commission of the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Opening 7:01 p.m.

Flag Salute

Statement of Adequate Notice

- Victor Cioni read the following Statement into the Record: “The requirements of the ‘Open Public Meetings Law, 1975, Chapter 231’ have been satisfied in that adequate notice of this meeting has been published in the Star Gazette and posted on the Bulletin Board of Borough Hall stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting as required by law.”

Roll Call

- Present: Victor Cioni, Joe Pinto, Adam Zimmer, Michael Nachbaur, Adam Robinson
- Also present: Richard Thompson, Council Liaison, and Susan Turner.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Victor Cioni moved to approve the minutes from the 6/12/13 meeting with no changes. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Audience Participation

- Victor Cioni moved to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried. Audience participation portion opened.
- No Audience present
- Victor Cioni moved to close the audience participation portion. Adam Zimmer seconded. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried, audience participation closed.

Communications

- Victor indicated there is a dispute about how the swim team coach, Andrew Ward, is to be paid. A contract had been given to the Borough Manager this past year in which Victor believed the coach was to be paid \$1500.00 with \$750.00 coming from the Borough and \$750.00 coming from the Sharks Swim Team. Andrew believes that his hours with the swim team and his hours managing the pool are being combined. Victor stated the hours should be kept separate.
- Currently there are around 35 swim team members and only 1 coach. If Andrew needs an Assistant Coach the salary (suggested \$8.00 per hour) should be shared by the Borough Recreation Department and the Sharks Swim Team. The need for an assistant coach, the pay rate and split of the pay rate between Rec and the Sharks, and the hiring should be worked out by Andrew Ward, Christine Thompson, Melissa Hommes and Joe Pinto.
- Adam Zimmer moved to allow the hiring of an Assistant Coach for the Sharks Swim Team with the pay being shared between the Borough Recreation Department and the Sharks Swim Team. Victor Cioni seconded. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried, Hiring of Assistant Coach allowed.
- In the pool pump house a PVC pipe which supplies the baby pool was broken. Victor contacted Veolia Water who came out and repaired it. The baby pool is now functioning as usual.
- Family Affair Florist completed the planting of periwinkle along the bank by the railroad tracks.

Recreation Director’s Report

Report from Council Liaison

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Report from Secretary

- 2 field hockey registration refunds requested – there were not enough registrations received to form a team.
- 1 Softball registration refund requested –
- Victor moved to issue the field hockey and softball registration refunds. Adam Zimmer seconded. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Motion carried, refunds approved.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Free Pool Membership – A resident has submitted financial information with a Family Pool Membership form and requested a free pool membership due to financial hardship. The information has been reviewed by the Recreation Director who determined the resident does qualify for a free membership.
- Victor Cioni moved to allow a free Family Pool Membership based on financial hardship. Adam Zimmer seconded. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, motion passed, free membership approved.
- The question was raised if the Recreation Commission should cap the number of free pool memberships issued annually. After discussion it was determined that nothing would be changed at this time but Victor would question the Borough Manager as to whether we can have a cap.

Sports Programs

- Swim Team – (Joe Pinto) – The first meet was held Tuesday and the first home meet is tomorrow. Joe requested that the Park pavilion be reserved for the Swim Team Party on Sat. 8/3/13 from 5:30 to dark. Joe asked if the “outside” window of the pool snack bar will be used. Victor said it hasn’t been opened yet because the screen is broken but is set to be repaired.
- 5k – (Adam Robinson) – Adam has started soliciting for sponsors. He will need a copy of the sponsor/solicitation letter from last year. He is posting on 4 racing sites and Runner’s World may sponsor us. Adam will talk with Jessica Olmos about updating the website to change the fun walk to a kids’ run. Adam wants to put up signs 3 months in advance. It was recommended to put them in residents’ yards, not public areas, so they will not be removed. Award Signs has the template. Specific “route” signs should be placed about 10 days prior to the race. Adam has been contacting people and organizations to get volunteers for the day of the race. Victor has spoken with the Chief of Police about hiring 2 officers for the duration of the race. The cost would be around \$300.00. The Police Chief said he will also have officers on duty during that time focus on the areas of the race, particularly Belvidere Avenue.
- Victor moved to hire 2 police officers to work during the 2013 5K race at a cost of approximately \$300.00. Adam Robinson seconded. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion approved, 2 police officers will be hired for the 5K race.
- Youth Soccer – (Victor) – Terry Finnegan is holding an in person sign up on Saturday, June 29 at the Borough Hall. Victor will coordinate the 2nd weed & feed on Vara field before soccer season.
- Field Hockey – (Mike Nachbaur) – We received only 3 registrations. The number of players is down all around.
- Street Hockey – (Mike Nachbaur) – No report
- Youth Basketball – (Mike Nachbaur) – No report
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Robinson) – No report
- Girls Softball – (Jeff Haines) – Victor reported that Jeff Haines resigned from the Recreation Commission. Jeff will still serve as a coach. Joe Pinto was asked and agreed to take over as Softball Liaison. Adam Robinson was asked and agreed to be Vice Chairperson of the Recreation Commission

until the reorganization meeting in January 2014. Victor has spoken to Scott McDonald about getting another commissioner.

Painting the remainder of the Grandstand should be started in the next 2 weeks. The bathroom floors in the Grandstand will be re-painted prior to soccer season. Victor is working with a young lady who is painting a Girls Softball Logo for the Grandstand.

- Karate – (TBD) – Paul Kilduff would like to hold small sessions at the pool during swimming lessons
- Adult Softball – (TBD) –No report.
- Adult Baseball – (Adam Robinson) –No report.
- Men’s Basketball –(Victor) -No report
- Pool – (Victor) – Many positive remarks have been received about all of the work done at the pool. The picnic style tables and benches constructed by Isaac Quelly for his Eagle Scout project have been delivered and will be kept within the pool area. They are well constructed, heavy duty with “plastic” wood table tops and bench seats. Susan will draft a letter of commendation to Isaac for his work. The Chaise lounge chairs are to be delivered tomorrow.
- Tennis Clinic – (Victor) – the smaller racquets are ready and will be ordered after the final number of registrations is received.
- Lacrosse Clinic – (Tim Shanahan) –No report.

Commission Comments

- Richard Thompson- Rich feels a Quoit and/or horseshoe area would be well received at the park. Victor remarked that a horseshoe pit was put in the fireplace area around 2 years ago and it was never used. If more residents express an interest it will be looked into further.
- Joe Pinto – no comments
- Adam Zimmer – no comments
- Adam Robinson – no comments
- Michael Nachbaur – Mike asked Victor to update the website to state there will be no field hockey team this year. The entire field hockey section can be removed at a later date.
- Tim Shanahan – absent
- Victor – no comments

Recap

- Melissa will give a copy of the Sharks Swim Team Agreement to Barbara VanWhy.
- Victor will discuss capping free pool memberships with Borough Manager Kristine Blanchard.
- After getting wording from Joe P, Susan will prepare Certificates of Participation for Swim Team members.
- Victor will remind Melissa about the screen in the outside snack bar window.
- Susan and Victor will look for the 5k sponsor letter and give a copy to Adam R.
- Victor will contact the Chief of Police regarding hiring 2 officers during the 5k race and will then notify Adam R.
- Victor will coordinate the 2nd weed & feed treatment of Vara field before soccer season.
- Susan will draft a letter of commendation to Isaac Quelly for his Eagle Scout project.

Adjournment

- Adam Zimmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 pm. Joe Pinto seconded. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion carried

Adjourn **7:44 PM**